

IOWA WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM Fact Sheet

Purpose

The Weatherization Assistance Program is a low-income energy efficiency program. Its purpose is to make the homes of low-income clients more energy efficient, thereby reducing the clients' fuel bills and increasing their comfort. The program also improves the health and safety of low-income homes by identifying and mitigating such health and safety problems as carbon monoxide, combustion appliance back-drafting and high indoor moisture levels. States must administer the program in accordance with DOE rules and regulations.

Eligibility

A household is eligible for assistance under the Iowa Weatherization Program if the household is receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Family Investment Program (FIP) Assistance, regardless of income or, the household's annual income is at, or below, 150 percent of the poverty level, as established by the Office of Management and Budget.

Funding

	<u>FY 2005</u>
Dept. of Energy	5,011,292
LIHEAP-Wx	5,184,900
Utilities	4,814,742
 TOTAL	 15,010,934

Household Characteristics

Elderly:	39%
Disabled:	47%
Young Child:	16%
Renters:	9%

Number of Homes Weatherized

FY 2003- 1,951 FY 1980 – 2003- 114,796

Unmet Need

Estimated to be 171,200 homes – Per analysis done by Fisher, Sheehan & Colton, 1996 and adjusted for homes completed since the report.

Energy Savings

Annual savings per home: \$250 (based on homes weatherized in CY 2003).

The energy efficiency measures installed in the 1,951 homes in 2003 will result in a savings of \$27.9 million dollars over 20 years.

The savings-to-investment ratio is 1.8. For every \$1.00 spent on the homes, \$1.80 is saved in energy costs over the life of the measures.

Health and Safety Measures

- Repair or replace unsafe furnaces (44% of homes) & water heaters (19% of homes)
- Install carbon monoxide or smoke detectors in certain situations (CO alarms installed in 34% of homes)
- Inspect all combustion appliances, provide information on risks of lead-based paint, and mitigate moisture problems

Other Non-energy Program Benefits

Although difficult to quantify with precision, the non-energy benefits of the Weatherization Program have been estimated to average \$3,136 per home. These non-energy benefits include improved client health and safety conditions, reduced air pollution (reduces carbon dioxide emissions by an average of 1 ton per home), and retention of affordable low-income housing.